

## NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the wording related to Restricted Amphibians and Reptiles, and to add three species to the list of species that are prohibited from take.

### **Title 76**

#### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

##### **PART XV. REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

#### **Chapter 1. Guidelines**

### **101. Recreational and Commercial Harvests; Prohibitions**

#### **J. Restricted Amphibians and Reptiles**

1. The following species are ~~deemed to be especially sensitive to overcollection in the state of Louisiana because of low population levels and/or limited ranges (according to Dundee and Rossman, 1989, The Amphibians and Reptiles of Louisiana, LSU Press, and any pertinent subsequent scientific literature).~~ Collection of these species from the wild in Louisiana for ~~commercial or personal purposes is hereby prohibited.~~ Scientific collecting of these species will be allowed by permit

~~under the following conditions:~~ considered Species of Conservation Concern by the Department.

- a(i) Ambystoma tigrinum - Tiger Salamander
- (ii) Plethodon serratus - Southern Red-backed Salamander
- (iii) Plethodon websteri - Webster's Salamander
- (iv) Pseudotriton montanus - Mud Salamander
- (v) Pseudotriton ruber - Red Salamander
- (vi) Pituophis ruthveni - Louisiana Pine Snake
- (vii) Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi - Black Pine Snake
- (viii) Crotalus adamanteus - Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake

b. one voucher specimen of these species per site may be collected to document range extensions or confirm the current occurrence of a species suspected to have been extirpated at a site (i.e. not collected in the past 20 years);  
~~collecting more than one specimen of these species shall require written justification submitted to and approved by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the approved number then being indicated on the permit;~~ No individual of these species may be killed or removed from the wild without permit issued by the department.

c. Up to five individuals of these species found dead in the wild may be salvaged without a permit;

d. any number of individuals of these species may be captured, processed on site (i.e. measured, marked, tissue samples taken by means deemed acceptable by Department of

Wildlife and Fisheries, etc.) and immediately released alive ~~where originally found~~ without removal from the site as part of a legitimate scientific study, without a permit.

~~2. As more information concerning the status of these and other amphibians and reptiles becomes available, species may be removed from or added to this list.~~

~~3. List of Restricted Amphibians and Reptiles.~~

2. List of Threatened or Endangered Amphibians and Reptiles. ~~In addition to those listed above,~~

a(i) Rana sevosa - Mississippi Gopher Frog

(ii) Chelonia mydas - Green Sea Turtle

(iii) Eretmochelys imbricata - Hawksbill Sea Turtle

(iv) Lepidochelys kempii - Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle

(v) Dermochelys coriacea - Leatherback Sea Turtle

(vi) Caretta caretta - Loggerhead Sea Turtle

(vii) Gopherus polyphemus - Gopher Tortoise

(viii) Graptemys oculifera - Ringed Sawback Turtle

b. These species are listed as threatened or endangered in Louisiana pursuant to LAC 76:I.317 and may not be killed, collected, or removed from the wild.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10), (13), (15) and (25), R.S. 56:23, and R.S. 56:632.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 20:1135 (October 1994), amended LR 30:2495 (November 2004) LR 31:2569 (October 2005).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including, but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statement, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Mr. Robert Love, Coastal Natural Resources Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA, 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 p.m., February 20, 2013.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Ann L. Taylor, Chairman